

To: Fleming, Sheila[fleming.sheila@epa.gov]
From: MacDonald, Jennifer
Sent: Wed 8/12/2015 4:44:30 PM
Subject: FW: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

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From: Hood, Lynne
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 9:39 AM
To: R10 Mining; Barton, Justine; Curtis, Jennifer; Freedman, Jonathan; Kubo, Teresa; Lohrman, Bridgette; Mbabaliye, Theogene; Meade, Chris; Peterson, Erik; Reichgott, Christine; Somers, Elaine
Subject: FW: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

EPA ceasing site assessment work at mine sites in the wake of Colorado Gold King incident. Whoa.

From: Werntz, James
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 10:02 AM
To: Marcy, Ken; Tomten, Dave; Hood, Lynne; Weigel, Greg
Subject: FW: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

From: McLerran, Dennis

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 9:58 AM
To: R10-ET Mail Group
Subject: FW: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

FYI Please implement this directive immediately. If we have any concerns about specific sites please let me know immediately.

Dennis

From: Adm13McCarthy, Gina
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 8:51 AM
To: Blumenfeld, Jared; Curry, Ron; Enck, Judith; Garvin, Shawn; Hague, Mark; Hedman, Susan; McGrath, Shaun; McLerran, Dennis; McTeerToney, Heather; Spalding, Curt
Cc: Fritz, Matthew; Stanislaus, Mathy
Subject: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

Good morning everyone,

While we continue to investigate the root causes of last week's release of mining waste at the Gold King Mine in Colorado, we are instructing our Regions to immediately cease any field investigation work at mines including tailings facilities, unless there is imminent risk in a specific case. We are in the process of initiating an independent assessment by a sister federal agency or another external entity to examine the factors that led to last week's incident. Based on the outcome from that assessment, we will determine what actions may be necessary to avoid similar incidents at other sites. While we stand down on existing field investigations and assessments at these mining sites, we also are instructing our Regions to identify existing sites with similarities to the Gold King Mine site and to identify any immediate threats and consider appropriate response actions.

If you have questions or wish to discuss a particular situation please reach out to Mathy.

Thank you.